

REMARKS:

Claims 1-10 are pending in the application. In the Office Action dated September 22, 2005, The Examiner rejected claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being obvious over Inoue et al. in view of Ichikawa et al, and claim 7 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being obvious over Inoue et al, objected to claims 2-3 as depending from a rejected base claim, rejected claims 4-6 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite, and allowed claims 8-10.

The 35 U.S.C. §103(a) rejections

In this amendment, claim 1 has been amended to include the subject matter of original claim 2; that is, to have the same scope as original claim 2, which the Examiner indicated as containing allowable subject matter. Amended claim 1 is therefore patentable over the cited references, and thus the §103(a) rejection of claim 7, which depends from claim 1, is now rendered moot.

The 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph rejections

Claims 4-6 have been amended to depend from claim 3 rather than claim 1. Amended claim 3 provides the proper antecedent basis for the terms “the first and second magnetic conduit controllers” in claim 4, “the first and second magnetic controller springs” in claim 5, and “the first and second conduit guide pin springs” and “the first and second guide pins” in amended claim 6.

Allowable Subject Matter

In the Office Action dated September 22, 2005, the Examiner indicated that claims 2-3 and 8-10 contained allowable subject matter. Amended claim 1 has the same scope as original claim 2. Therefore claims 1, 3, and 8-10 are now patentable, in addition to amended claims 4-6 which have been amended to overcome the §112, second paragraph rejections.

In view of the foregoing, Applicant believes all claims now pending in this application are in condition for allowance. The issuance of a formal Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested.

Authorization is granted to charge any outstanding fees due at this time for the continued prosecution of this matter to Morgan, Lewis & Bockius LLP Deposit Account No. 50-0310 (matter no. 060943-0063)

Respectfully submitted,



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